In the Claims

1.-5.   (cancelled)

6.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim ~~1~~ 27,

wherein said at least one [[re]]configurable hardware device is selected from the group

consisting of: field programmable gate arrays, and computer programmable logic

devices; and at least one programmable hardware device, from the group consisting

of digital signal processors, and microprocessors.

7.   (cancelled)

8.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim ~~1~~ 27,

wherein said storage device is located within ~~said~~ a camera head.

9.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim ~~1~~ 27,

wherein said storage device is located within said camera control unit.

10.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim ~~1~~ 27,

wherein said storage device includes a removable, replaceable memory unit.

11.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim ~~1~~ 27,

wherein said storage device is remotely accessible.

12.   (original) The video imaging system according to claim 11, wherein said

storage device is an Intranet location.

13.   (original) The video imaging system according to claim 11, wherein said

storage device is an Internet location.

14.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim 1 27,

wherein said program enables said camera control unit to issue commands to said a

camera head.

15.   (previously presented) The video imaging system according to claim 14,

wherein said camera head sends confirmation to said camera control unit that said

commands were received.

16.   (original) The video imaging system according to claim 14, wherein said camera

head adjusts operating characteristics in response to said camera control unit

commands.

17.   (cancelled)

18.   (currently amended) The system according to claim ~~1~~ 27, further comprising

software executing on said camera control unit for determining when said camera

head is in communication with said camera control unit.

19.-25.   (cancelled)

26.   (currently amended) The video imaging system according to claim ~~22~~ 27,

further including a second storage device and processed image data is stored on said

second storage device.

27.   (currently amended) A video imaging system, comprising:

        a camera control unit for receiving and processing image data;

        a software program located on a storage device for enabling said camera

control unit to process the image data;

        a configurable hardware device located on said camera control unit for

processing the image data, said configurable hardware device including a non-

overwritable portion that requests said software program;

        a processor located on said camera control unit for ~~retrieving and~~ executing

said software program ~~to configure said configurable hardware device~~;

        said non-overwritable portion loads said program on said processor; and

said software program executing on said <u>processor for modifying said</u>

configurable hardware device and enabling said camera control unit to process the

image data.

28.   (original) The video imaging system according to claim 27, further comprising a

pre-existing program located on said configurable hardware device for processing the

image data.

29.   (original) The video imaging system according to claim 28, wherein said

program executing on said processor overwrites said pre-existing program.

30.-34.   (cancelled)